

# EXHIBIT A

Submission dated December 23, 2010

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/605,001

Gary Karlin Michelson

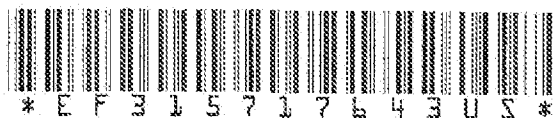
Filed June 27, 2000

APPARATUS AND METHOD OF INSERTING  
SPINAL IMPLANTS

Attorney Docket No. 101.0044-04000

Confirmation No. 5171

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<b>FROM: (PLEASE PRINT)</b> Martin & Ferraro, LLP 14500 Avenida Parkway Suite 300 Chantilly, VA 20151-1101 703-710-2100	<b>TO: (PLEASE PRINT)</b> Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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PLEASE STAMP TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE FOLLOWING:

In Re Application of: Gary Karlin Michelson  
U.S. Serial No.: 09/605,001  
Filed: June 27, 2000  
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD OF INSERTING SPINAL IMPLANTS

Group Art Unit: 3764  
Examiner: M. Brown

1. Certificate of Mailing Via U.S. Express Mail
2. Transmittal Letter (in duplicate)
3. Amendment with attached document
4. \$570.00 additional claims fee to be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1066.

Dated: July 3, 2001  
Docket No. 101.0044-04000  
Customer No. 22882

Express Mail Label No. EF315717643US

PLEASE STAMP TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE FOLLOWING:

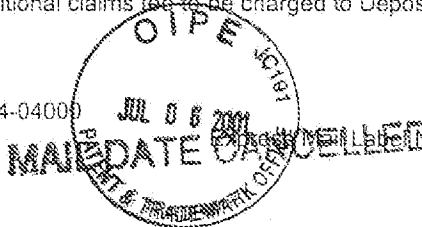
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7-3-01

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:  
Gary Karlin Michelson  
Serial No.: 09/605,001  
Filed: June 27, 2000  
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD OF INSERTING  
SPINAL IMPLANTS

Art Unit: 3764  
Examiner: M. Brown

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment in reply to the Office Action dated June 11, 2001 in the above-identified application.

- ☐ No additional fee is required.  
☐ Applicant hereby requests a \_\_\_\_-month extension of time to respond to the above office action.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	(Col. 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Col. 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Col. 3) PRESENT EXTRA*	LG/SM \$ ENTITY FEE	ADD'L FEE DUE
TOTAL CLAIMS FEE	25	-	20	**	5	LG=\$18 SM=\$9 \$ 90.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS FEE	9	-	3	***	6	LG=\$80 SM=\$40 \$ 480.00
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS					LARGE ENTITY FEE = \$270 SMALL ENTITY FEE = \$135	\$ ---
TOTAL						\$ 570.00

\* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

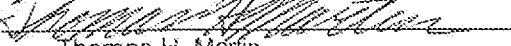
\*\* If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

\*\*\* If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space. The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box on Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

- ☒ A fee in the amount of \$570.00 to cover the additional claims fee is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1066.  
☐ A fee in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_ to cover the three month extension of time is enclosed.  
☐ A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_ to cover the above fees is enclosed.  
☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies of fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1066. **A copy of this sheet is enclosed.**  
☒ Any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims  
☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17

Respectfully submitted,  
MARTIN & FERRARO, LLP

Date: July 3, 2001

By:   
Thomas H. Martin  
Registration No. 34,383  
Attorney for Applicant

14500 Avion Parkway, Suite 300  
Chantilly, VA 20151-1101  
Telephone: 703-679-9300  
Facsimile: 703-679-9303

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
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Gary Karlin Michelson )  
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Serial No.: 09/605,001 ) Group Art Unit: 3764  
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Filed: June 27, 2000 ) Examiner: M. Brown  
 )  
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD OF )  
INSERTING SPINAL IMPLANTS )

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING VIA U.S. EXPRESS MAIL

Express Mail@ Mailing Label No. EF315717643US  
Date of Deposit: July 3, 2001

I hereby certify that:

1. Transmittal Letter (in duplicate)
2. Amendment with attached document
3. \$570.00 additional claims fee to be charged to Deposit Account  
No. 50-1066
4. Self-addressed return postcard receipt

are being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express Mail Post Office to Addressee with sufficient postage under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and are addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: July 3, 2001

  
Sandra L. Blackmon

14500 Avion Parkway, Suite 300  
Chantilly, VA 20151-1101  
Telephone: (703) 679-9300  
Facsimile: (703) 679-9303